



SOIL AND ROCK TESTING ACTIVITIES

May 2007

Engineering and environmental studies began in August 2006 on the section of Interstate 83 between the interchange with Interstate 81 and Derry Street, just north of the Eisenhower Interchange. Designated the I-83 East Shore Section 1 Project, it is one of the four sections identified in the 2003 I-83 Master Plan. This three-mile segment of I-83 forms the eastern section of the Harrisburg Capital Beltway.

Part of the solution to improve traffic capacity and safety on this section of I-83 includes widening the roadway to three lanes in each direction plus an auxiliary lane between the interchange ramps.



In order to minimize the amount of right-of-way PennDOT will need to acquire and limit our impact on the neighboring properties, retaining walls will be placed at many locations along the I-83 East Shore Section 1 corridor. The construction of these retaining walls will reduce the need for cut and fill slopes that would require additional right-of-way. Noise barriers will also be considered at many locations. In addition, all of the bridges on I-83 or spanning over I-83 will need to be either replaced or widened. All of these walls and bridges require testing of the



soils and bedrock, so that foundations can be constructed that adequately support the various structures.

First, if you travel or live along this corridor, you will likely be noticing surveyor marks, stakes, or pins in the yards and pavement adjacent to I-83 that mark the proposed boring locations for taking soil and rock samples for testing and analysis. This work has started and should be completed by late May. Second, you will be noticing boring operations, with drilling rigs similar to the one illustrated, beginning this summer. Please note that not all of the surveyed marks will be bored, or they may be bored at a later time. **Also, please note that the boring locations are approximate, and retaining walls or other structures may not be constructed at that exact location.** In fact, some of the boring locations have been adjusted in order to avoid sensitive features or property impacts. Third, any disturbed areas will be restored to existing conditions following the drilling operations.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the boring operations, please contact John Bachman at PennDOT District 8-0 at 717-783-4519 (jobachman@state.pa.us), or John Rautzahn, P.E. at McCormick Taylor, Inc., at 717-540-6040 (jlrutzahn@mccormicktaylor.com).